IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Meudt et al.

Group Art Unit: 1625

Application No.: 10/586,768

Examiner: J. Mabry

Filed: July 20, 2006

Confirmation No.: 7994

For: PROCESS FOR PREPARING NITRILES AND ISONITRILES BY DEHYDRATION

REACTIONS WITH PROPANEPHOSPHONIC ANHYDRIDES

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF AN INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Charlotte, North Carolina January 7, 2008

Dear Sir:

In response to the Interview Summary in the Office Communication dated December 27, 2007, kindly consider the following remarks:

Remarks begin on Page 2 of this paper.

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REMARKS

Claims 1 through 11 are pending in the application.

Applicants' Representative acknowledges with gratitude the Examiner's Telephonic Interview of December 3, 2007.

Out of an abundance of caution, Applicants respectfully make of record that the Interview Summary included with the Communication of December 27, 2007 is complete.

In particular, Claims 2 and 3 were discussed. No prior art was identified. Applicants will correct the valency of phosphorous to reflect its double bond with oxygen within their forthcoming Amendment to the outstanding Office Action of December 27, 2007. Applicants will revise Formula I regarding the definition of "X" within the forthcoming Amendment, as well.

No agreement was reached regarding the term "aryl and heteroaryl." To provide additional time for consideration, Applicants will provide a formal response to the Examiner's rejection within the forthcoming Amendment.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that Applicants have made a significant and important contribution to the art, which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the art. It is requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned if any questions remain to expedite examination of this application.

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It is not believed that extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time and/or fees are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2193.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Moore

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CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office PAIR website on January 7, 2007.

Claire Wygand